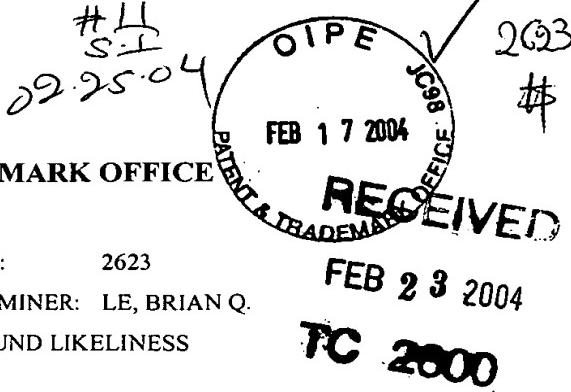


Docket No. 197311US2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Hiromi OKUBO, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/663,843

GAU: 2623

FILED: September 15, 2000

EXAMINER: LE, BRIAN Q.

FOR: IMAGE PROCESSING BASED ON DEGREE OF WHITE-BACKGROUND LIKELINESS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97
RECEIVED

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

FEB 23 2004

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

Technology Center 2600

REFERENCES

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.


Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

Joseph A. Scafetta, Jr.
Registration No. 26, 803

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 05/03)